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Quantum Field Theory, Bosonization and Duality on the Half Line

Antonio Liguori

*International School for Advanced Studies,
34014 Trieste, Italy*

Mihail Mintchev

*Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare, Sezione di Pisa
Dipartimento di Fisica dell'Università di Pisa,
Piazza Torricelli 2, 56100 Pisa, Italy*

Abstract

We develop a bosonization procedure on the half line. Different boundary conditions, formulated in terms of the vector and axial fermion currents, are implemented by using in general the mixed boundary condition on the bosonic field. The interplay between symmetries and boundary conditions is investigated in this context, with a particular emphasis on duality. As an application, we explicitly construct operator solutions of the massless Thirring model on the half line, respecting different boundary conditions.

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1. Introduction

Quantum field theories in space-time with boundaries are useful in different areas of physics, providing deeper understanding of various boundary phenomena. The renewed interest in the subject stems from the recent advance [1-4] in the treatment of impurity problems from condensed matter physics and is related also to applications in dissipative quantum mechanics [5] and open string theory [6]. In the simplest cases, one is dealing with models in 1+1 dimensions, constructed in terms of fields which are free everywhere except for an interaction on the boundary. In spite of the remarkable progress achieved in handling these boundary interactions by means of conformal and/or integrable field theory [7-12], some interesting issues need a further investigation. One may wonder in this respect if the method of bosonization, another fundamental tool of two-dimensional quantum field theory, can shed new light on the subject. In absence of boundaries, bosonization plays an essential role for constructing exact solutions [13] of some models and establishing the equivalence among others [14,15]. The nonabelian variant of bosonization [16] produces also relevant results in both conformal field and string theory. It is quite natural at this point to try bosonization in 1+1 dimensional space-time with boundaries. To our knowledge however, a systematic treatment is still to be developed in this case, where both translation and Lorentz invariance are broken and the deeply related concepts of locality and statistics have to be reconsidered. Together with the notion of duality, these are the basic problems which must be faced in order to develop bosonization with boundaries.

In the present paper we propose a bosonization procedure on the half line $\overline{\mathbf{R}}_+ = \{x \in \mathbf{R} : x \geq 0\}$, addressing the just mentioned problems. Our work is organized as follows. We start by investigating the free massless scalar φ field with mixed boundary condition (in $x = 0$), fixed in terms of the so called boundary parameter η . Afterwards, we construct the dual field $\tilde{\varphi}$ and establish the locality properties of φ and $\tilde{\varphi}$, surviving the breakdown of the spatial symmetries on $\mathbf{R} \times \overline{\mathbf{R}}_+$. These locality properties are the basis of bosonization. We also compute the correlation functions of φ and $\tilde{\varphi}$, detecting the absence of left-right factorization. As expected, the symmetry

content of the fields φ and $\tilde{\varphi}$ depends on the value of the parameter η . It turns out in particular, that duality connects the Neumann and Dirichlet boundary conditions. All these aspects are discussed in detail in section 2. In section 3 we build anyon fields in terms of φ and $\tilde{\varphi}$, elaborating on the delicate question concerning the metric in the state space. Section 4 is devoted to the free fermion bosonization. We describe various types of boundary conditions, which are most naturally formulated in terms of the vector and/or the axial current and are therefore nonlinear in the fermion field. The deep relationship between internal symmetries and boundary conditions is also investigated. In section 5 we turn to interacting fields, considering the Thirring model on $\mathbf{R} \times \overline{\mathbf{R}}_+$ in three different phases, corresponding to what we call vector, axial and vector-axial symmetric boundary conditions. In order to construct the conserved currents, we examine the short distance behavior of the corresponding operator products. We discuss the subtle points related to the absence of Lorentz and translation invariance and explicitly derive the renormalization constants needed in defining the vector and axial currents. The last section is devoted to our conclusions. Some technical issues are collected in the appendices.

2. The Massless Scalar Field and Its Dual on The Half Line

The idea for bosonization can be traced back to Jordan and Wigner [17]. From the rather extensive literature on the subject (see e.g. [18,19] and references therein), it is well known that the fundamental building blocks in $\mathbf{R} \times \mathbf{R}$ are the free massless scalar field φ and its dual $\tilde{\varphi}$. These fields are related via

$$\partial_x \tilde{\varphi}(t, x) = -\partial_t \varphi(t, x) \quad , \quad \partial_t \tilde{\varphi}(t, x) = -\partial_x \varphi(t, x) \quad . \quad (2.1)$$

Both φ and $\tilde{\varphi}$ are *local* fields, but it turns out that they are not *relatively* local. Therefore, the Wick monomials in φ and $\tilde{\varphi}$ respectively, generate two different Borchers classes [20]. As recognized already in the early sixties [18], the deep interplay between these two classes is in the heart of bosonization, duality, chiral superselection sectors and many

other phenomena, characterizing the rich and fascinating structure of 1+1 dimensional quantum field theory. For this reason, it is natural to ask to what extent the above features of the fields φ and $\tilde{\varphi}$ hold also in the presence of a boundary. For answering this question, we investigate in this section the problem on $\mathbf{R} \times \overline{\mathbf{R}}_+$.

So, let us start with the classical action

$$S[\varphi] = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt \int_0^{\infty} dx \left\{ [\partial_t \varphi(t, x)]^2 - [\partial_x \varphi(t, x)]^2 \right\} - \frac{\eta}{2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt \varphi^2(t, 0) , \quad (2.2)$$

which has the usual “bulk” part plus a boundary term. Varying $S[\varphi]$ one gets the standard equation of motion

$$(\partial_t^2 - \partial_x^2) \varphi(t, x) = 0 , \quad (2.3)$$

and the boundary condition

$$\lim_{x \downarrow 0} (\partial_x - \eta) \varphi(t, x) = 0 . \quad (2.4)$$

Eq.(2.4) represents the so called mixed boundary condition. Notice that η has dimension of mass. In the limits $\eta \rightarrow 0$ and $\eta \rightarrow \infty$ one formally recovers from (2.4) the familiar Neumann and Dirichlet boundary conditions respectively.

One should always keep in mind that the boundary term in (2.2) breaks down the invariance under Lorentz boosts and space translations. $S[\varphi]$ is invariant however under time translations, which implies conservation of the energy

$$E[\varphi] = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\infty} dx \left\{ [\partial_t \varphi(t, x)]^2 + [\partial_x \varphi(t, x)]^2 \right\} + \frac{\eta}{2} \varphi^2(t, 0) . \quad (2.5)$$

Indeed, because of eq.(2.4), the time derivatives of the integral and the boundary term in (2.5) precisely compensate each other. From eq.(2.5) we deduce that the functional $E[\varphi]$ is non-negative if and only if $\eta \geq 0$, which will be assumed in the rest of this paper. The case $\eta < 0$ is also physically interesting and will be considered in a future publication [21].

Integrating by parts and using (2.4), $E[\varphi]$ can be written in the form

$$E[\varphi] = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\infty} dx \left\{ [\partial_t \varphi(t, x)]^2 - \varphi(t, x) \partial_x^2 \varphi(t, x) \right\} , \quad (2.6)$$

which implies the following energy density:

$$\mathcal{E}(t, x) = \frac{1}{2} \{ [\partial_t \varphi(t, x)]^2 - \varphi(t, x) \partial_x^2 \varphi(t, x) \} \quad . \quad (2.7)$$

We turn now to the construction of the quantum fields φ and $\tilde{\varphi}$. First of all, we need a complete set of positive energy solutions of eq.(2.3), which satisfy the boundary condition (2.4). For this purpose we consider the functions

$$\psi_k(t, x) = e^{ikt} [e^{-ikx} + B(k) e^{ikx}] \quad , \quad k \in \mathbf{R} \quad , \quad (2.8)$$

where

$$B(k) \equiv \frac{k - i\eta}{k + i\eta} \quad . \quad (2.9)$$

The phase factor $B(k)$ obeys the following useful relations:

$$B(k) B(-k) = 1 \quad , \quad \overline{B}(k) B(k) = 1 \quad . \quad (2.10)$$

One can directly verify that the family $\{\psi_k : k > 0\}$ fulfills all the requirements. In particular, for fixed time one has both orthogonality

$$\int_0^\infty dx \overline{\psi}_k(t, x) \psi_p(t, x) = 2\pi \delta(k - p) \quad , \quad (2.11)$$

and completeness

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{dk}{2\pi} \overline{\psi}_k(t, x) \psi_k(t, y) = \delta(x - y) \quad , \quad (2.12)$$

where the variables in (2.11,12) belong to \mathbf{R}_+ . In order to define the dual field $\tilde{\varphi}$, we also introduce the set

$$\tilde{\psi}_k(t, x) = e^{ikt} [e^{-ikx} - B(k) e^{ikx}] \quad , \quad k \in \mathbf{R} \quad , \quad (2.13)$$

of solutions of (2.3), which satisfy in addition the duality equations

$$\partial_x \tilde{\psi}_k(t, x) = -\partial_t \psi_k(t, x) \quad , \quad \partial_t \tilde{\psi}_k(t, x) = -\partial_x \psi_k(t, x) \quad , \quad (2.14)$$

analogous to (2.1).

The last ingredient, needed for the construction of the fields φ and $\tilde{\varphi}$ on the half line, is the algebra \mathcal{A} generated by $\{a^*(k), a(k) : k \geq 0\}$, satisfying the commutation relations

$$[a(k), a(p)] = [a^*(k), a^*(p)] = 0 \quad , \quad (2.15)$$

$$[a(k), a^*(p)] = 2\pi (k_+^{-1})_{\mu_0} \delta(k - p) \quad . \quad (2.16)$$

Here $\mu_0 > 0$ is a scale parameter with dimension of mass. The infrared origin of μ_0 , together with the definition and the basic properties of the distribution $(k_+^{-1})_{\mu_0}$, are discussed in Appendix A. There one can find also the explicit construction of the Fock representation \mathcal{F} of \mathcal{A} , used throughout the paper. Since $(k_+^{-1})_{\mu_0}$ is not positive definite, \mathcal{F} has indefinite metric - a typical feature of the two-dimensional world [18].

At this stage we are ready to introduce the quantum fields φ and $\tilde{\varphi}$ defined by

$$\varphi(t, x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \int_0^\infty \frac{dk}{2\pi} [a^*(k)\psi_k(t, x) + a(k)\bar{\psi}_k(t, x)] \quad , \quad (2.17)$$

$$\tilde{\varphi}(t, x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \int_0^\infty \frac{dk}{2\pi} [a^*(k)\tilde{\psi}_k(t, x) + a(k)\bar{\tilde{\psi}}_k(t, x)] \quad . \quad (2.18)$$

Both φ and $\tilde{\varphi}$ are free massless Klein-Gordon fields, expressed in terms of the same creation and annihilation operators $\{a^*(k), a(k) : k \geq 0\}$, acting in \mathcal{F} . The properties of ψ_k and $\tilde{\psi}_k$ imply that φ and $\tilde{\varphi}$ satisfy the duality relation (2.1) and the boundary condition (2.4) with arbitrary, but fixed $\eta \geq 0$. Moreover, at the special values $\eta = 0$ and $\eta = \infty$ the phase factor (2.9) simplifies, leading to the relations

$$\varphi(t, x)|_{\eta=0} = \tilde{\varphi}(t, x)|_{\eta=\infty} \quad , \quad (2.19)$$

$$\varphi(t, x)|_{\eta=\infty} = \tilde{\varphi}(t, x)|_{\eta=0} \quad . \quad (2.20)$$

Eqs.(2.19-20) are a first manifestation of the nontrivial interplay between duality and boundary conditions on the half line.

In order to develop the bosonization procedure we have to establish the commutation properties of φ and $\tilde{\varphi}$. The independent commutators can be conveniently represented in the form

$$[\varphi(t_1, x_1), \varphi(t_2, x_2)] = iD(t_1 - t_2, x_1 - x_2) + iD_\eta(t_1 - t_2, x_1 + x_2) \quad , \quad (2.21)$$

$$[\tilde{\varphi}(t_1, x_1), \tilde{\varphi}(t_2, x_2)] = iD(t_1 - t_2, x_1 - x_2) - iD_\eta(t_1 - t_2, x_1 + x_2) , \quad (2.22)$$

$$[\varphi(t_1, x_1), \tilde{\varphi}(t_2, x_2)] = i\tilde{D}(t_1 - t_2, x_1 - x_2) + i\tilde{D}_\eta(t_1 - t_2, x_1 + x_2) , \quad (2.23)$$

where the translational non-invariant and η -dependent contribution has been isolated in the functions D_η and \tilde{D}_η . A simple computation gives

$$D(t, x) = -\frac{1}{2}\varepsilon(t)\theta(t^2 - x^2) , \quad (2.24)$$

$$\tilde{D}(t, x) = \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon(x)\theta(x^2 - t^2) , \quad (2.25)$$

which coincide with the commutators in the absence of a boundary (see e.g. [18]). Using that $\eta \geq 0$, one also finds

$$D_\eta(t, x) = \begin{cases} -\frac{1}{2}\varepsilon(t)\theta(t^2 - x^2) , & \eta = 0; \\ \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon(t)\theta(t^2 - x^2) + \theta(-t - x)e^{\eta(t+x)} - \theta(t - x)e^{\eta(x-t)} , & 0 < \eta < \infty; \\ \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon(t)\theta(t^2 - x^2) , & \eta = \infty; \end{cases} \quad (2.26)$$

and

$$\tilde{D}_\eta(t, x) = \begin{cases} -\frac{1}{2}\varepsilon(x)\theta(x^2 - t^2) , & \eta = 0; \\ \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon(x)\theta(x^2 - t^2) + \theta(-t - x)e^{\eta(t+x)} + \theta(t - x)e^{\eta(x-t)} , & 0 < \eta < \infty; \\ \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon(x)\theta(x^2 - t^2) , & \eta = \infty. \end{cases} \quad (2.27)$$

We see from eqs.(2.24-27) that the commutators (2.21-23) are μ_0 -independent, in spite of the fact that φ and $\tilde{\varphi}$ depend on μ_0 . Notice also that D_η enters the right hand side of (2.21) and (2.22) with a different sign. Therefore,

$$[\varphi(t_1, x_1), \varphi(t_2, x_2)] \neq [\tilde{\varphi}(t_1, x_1), \tilde{\varphi}(t_2, x_2)] ,$$

contrary to the case without boundary [18]. Another feature which is worth stressing is that D_η and \tilde{D}_η are continuous in η for $0 < \eta \leq \infty$, but discontinuous in $\eta = 0$. We will see later on that the symmetry content of the theory also exhibits such a discontinuity.

After these general remarks, we concentrate on the commutators (2.21,22). Observing that for $x_1, x_2 \in \overline{\mathbf{R}}_+$ the inequality $|t_1 - t_2| < |x_1 - x_2|$ implies $|t_1 - t_2| < x_1 + x_2$,

one can check that φ commutes with itself at space-like separated points and is therefore a local field. This conclusion, which holds also for $\tilde{\varphi}$, is quite remarkable because Lorentz invariance is broken. The two terms D and D_η in (2.21,22) have a very intuitive explanation. As far as $|t_1 - t_2| < |x_1 - x_2|$ no signal can propagate between the points (t_1, x_1) and (t_2, x_2) and the commutator vanishes. When $|x_1 - x_2| < |t_1 - t_2| < x_1 + x_2$ signals can propagate directly between the two points, but they cannot be influenced by the boundary and the only contribution comes from D . As soon as $x_1 + x_2 = |t_1 - t_2|$, signals starting from one of the points can be reflected at the boundary and reach the other point. This phenomenon is responsible for the term D_η in eq.(2.21,22). By means of eqs.(2.24,26) one can also easily verify that the equal-time canonical commutation relations

$$[\varphi(t, x_1), \varphi(t, x_2)] = [\tilde{\varphi}(t, x_1), \tilde{\varphi}(t, x_2)] = 0 \quad , \quad (2.28)$$

$$[\partial_t \varphi(t, x_1), \varphi(t, x_2)] = [\partial_t \tilde{\varphi}(t, x_1), \tilde{\varphi}(t, x_2)] = -i\delta(x_1 - x_2) \quad , \quad (2.29)$$

hold when $x_{1,2} > 0$. Eq.(2.29) fixes actually the normalization in (2.17,18).

Concerning relative locality, from the mixed commutator (2.23) and eqs.(2.25,27) we immediately see that φ is nonlocal with respect to $\tilde{\varphi}$. We will see later that this fact is of crucial importance for bosonization.

It is both instructive and convenient to introduce also the chiral basis of right and left fields, defined by

$$\varphi_R(t-x) \equiv [\varphi(t, x) + \tilde{\varphi}(t, x)] = \sqrt{2} \int_0^\infty \frac{dk}{2\pi} \left[a^*(k) e^{ik(t-x)} + a(k) e^{-ik(t-x)} \right] , \quad (2.30)$$

$$\varphi_L(t+x) \equiv [\varphi(t, x) - \tilde{\varphi}(t, x)] = \sqrt{2} \int_0^\infty \frac{dk}{2\pi} \left[a^*(k) B(k) e^{ik(t+x)} + a(k) B(-k) e^{-ik(t+x)} \right] . \quad (2.31)$$

Notice that each of the fields φ_R and φ_L depends on one real variable - the light-cone coordinate $t - x$ and $t + x$ correspondingly. Using eqs.(2.21-27) one finds

$$[\varphi_R(\xi_1), \varphi_R(\xi_2)] = [\varphi_L(\xi_1), \varphi_L(\xi_2)] = -i\varepsilon(\xi_{12}) \quad , \quad \xi_{12} \equiv \xi_1 - \xi_2 \quad , \quad (2.32)$$

which are not sensitive to the parameter η . The boundary manifests itself in the mixed

relation

$$[\varphi_R(\xi_1), \varphi_L(\xi_2)] = \begin{cases} -i\varepsilon(\xi_{12}), & \eta = 0; \\ i\varepsilon(\xi_{12}) - 4i\theta(\xi_{12})e^{-\eta\xi_{12}}, & 0 < \eta < \infty; \\ i\varepsilon(\xi_{12}), & \eta = \infty. \end{cases} \quad (2.33)$$

As it should be expected, due to the φ - $\tilde{\varphi}$ mixing, the locality properties are less transparent in the chiral basis. The commutators however, have a more compact form and are translation invariant in the light-cone coordinates. We draw reader's attention to eq.(2.33). It shows that in contrast to the case without boundary, the left and the right sectors of the free massless scalar field on the half line do not decouple. The familiar left-right factorization breaks down on $\overline{\mathbf{R}}_+$ even for $\eta = 0$ and $\eta = \infty$. This phenomenon, which has relevant consequences in the applications, has been discussed in the context of conformal field theory by Cardy [22].

The fundamental correlation functions in the chiral basis are:

$$w_{AB}(\xi_1, \xi_2) = \langle \Omega, \varphi_A(\xi_1)\varphi_B(\xi_2)\Omega \rangle , \quad A, B = R, L , \quad (2.34)$$

where Ω and $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ are the vacuum and the scalar product in the Fock representation \mathcal{F} (see the appendix). Using the commutation relations (2.15-16) and the fact that Ω is annihilated by $a(k)$, we get:

$$w_{RR}(\xi_1, \xi_2) = w_{LL}(\xi_1, \xi_2) = u(\mu\xi_{12}) , \quad (2.35)$$

$$w_{RL}(\xi_1, \xi_2) = \begin{cases} u(\mu\xi_{12}), & \eta = 0; \\ -u(\mu\xi_{12}) - v_-(\eta\xi_{12}), & 0 < \eta < \infty; \\ -u(\mu\xi_{12}), & \eta = \infty, \end{cases} \quad (2.36)$$

$$w_{LR}(\xi_1, \xi_2) = \begin{cases} u(\mu\xi_{12}), & \eta = 0; \\ -u(\mu\xi_{12}) - v_+(-\eta\xi_{12}), & 0 < \eta < \infty; \\ -u(\mu\xi_{12}), & \eta = \infty. \end{cases} \quad (2.37)$$

Here

$$\mu \equiv \mu_0 e^{\gamma_E} , \quad (2.38)$$

γ_E being Euler's constant. The explicit form of the distributions u and v_\pm is

$$u(\xi) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \ln(i\xi + \epsilon) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \ln|\xi| - \frac{i}{2}\varepsilon(\xi) , \quad (2.39)$$

$$v_{\pm}(\xi) = \frac{2}{\pi} e^{-\xi} \text{Ei}(\xi \pm i\epsilon) \quad , \quad (2.40)$$

where Ei denotes the exponential-integral function, which has a cut in the complex plane located on the positive real axes. As usual, the presence of the parameter $\epsilon > 0$ implies the weak limit $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$. One can verify that

$$u(\xi) - u(-\xi) = -i\varepsilon(\xi) \quad , \quad (2.41)$$

$$v_-(\xi) - v_+(\xi) = 4i\theta(\xi)e^{-\xi} \quad , \quad (2.42)$$

which provide a consistency check between (2.32,33) and (2.35-40).

Now we are in the position to investigate another fundamental aspect - the metric in the state space of φ and $\tilde{\varphi}$. Just as in the case on the whole line, it is easy to show that there are states with negative norm. Indeed, let us consider the smeared fields

$$\varphi_R(f) \equiv \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt \int_0^{\infty} dx f(t, x) \varphi_R(t-x) \quad , \quad \varphi_L(f) \equiv \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt \int_0^{\infty} dx f(t, x) \varphi_L(t+x) \quad ,$$

where f is a test function in $\mathbf{R} \times \mathbf{R}_+$. Introducing

$$\hat{f}_{\pm}(k) \equiv \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt \int_0^{\infty} dx e^{ik(t\pm x)} f(t, x) \quad , \quad (2.43)$$

by means of (A.2) and (2.15,16,30,31) one finds

$$\langle \varphi_L(f)\Omega, \varphi_L(f)\Omega \rangle = -2 \int_0^{\infty} \frac{dk}{2\pi} \ln \frac{k}{\mu_0} \frac{d}{dk} \left[\overline{\hat{f}_+}(k) \hat{f}_+(k) \right] \quad , \quad (2.44)$$

$$\langle \varphi_R(f)\Omega, \varphi_R(f)\Omega \rangle = -2 \int_0^{\infty} \frac{dk}{2\pi} \ln \frac{k}{\mu_0} \frac{d}{dk} \left[\overline{\hat{f}_-}(k) \hat{f}_-(k) \right] \quad . \quad (2.45)$$

Varying f , the right hand sides of eqs.(2.44,45) have no definite sign, which shows that the metric is not positive definite. As in the case without boundary, this fact poses the problem of identifying a physical subspace with positive metric. We will face this fundamental problem in the next section. Since symmetries are essential for selecting the physical subspace, to the end of this section we will briefly analyze the symmetry content of the fields φ and $\tilde{\varphi}$ on the half line.

As far as space-time symmetries are concerned, the situation is quite clear. Although dealing with a relativistic type dispersion relation, from the Poincaré group we

are left on $\mathbf{R} \times \overline{\mathbf{R}}_+$ only with the time translations. Other admissible transformations, which form a group acting on $\mathbf{R} \times \overline{\mathbf{R}}_+$, are the dilatations

$$(t, x) \longmapsto (\varrho t, \varrho x) \quad , \quad \varrho > 0 \quad . \quad (2.46)$$

One can easily deduce from eqs.(2.35-37) that the rescaling (2.46) in any correlation function of the fields φ and $\tilde{\varphi}$ is equivalent to the substitutions $\mu \mapsto \varrho \mu$ and $\eta \mapsto \varrho \eta$.

Let us investigate now the internal symmetries. From bosonization on the plane $\mathbf{R} \times \mathbf{R}$ we know that the shift operations

$$S : \varphi(t, x) \longmapsto \varphi(t, x) + \sigma \quad , \quad \tilde{S} : \tilde{\varphi}(t, x) \longmapsto \tilde{\varphi}(t, x) + \tilde{\sigma} \quad , \quad \sigma, \tilde{\sigma} \in \mathbf{R} \quad , \quad (2.47)$$

are fundamental because they induce on fermion level the vector and axial transformations respectively. There exist *two nontrivial* charge operators Q and \tilde{Q} , which generate (2.47) and correspond to the conserved currents $\partial_\nu \varphi$ and $\partial_\nu \tilde{\varphi}$ ($\nu = t, x$).

The situation is quite different on $\mathbf{R} \times \overline{\mathbf{R}}_+$, because the boundary condition (2.4) is not invariant under both S and \tilde{S} . In fact, (2.4) is S -invariant only for $\eta = 0$, whereas for $0 < \eta \leq \infty$ (2.4) is respected by \tilde{S} solely. As a consequence, for fixed η one is left with *one nontrivial* charge. This essential new feature on the half line is confirmed by the explicit construction of Q and \tilde{Q} , we are going to describe now. The currents $\partial_\nu \varphi$ and $\partial_\nu \tilde{\varphi}$ are conserved on $\mathbf{R} \times \overline{\mathbf{R}}_+$ as well, but the tentative to introduce Q and \tilde{Q} in the conventional way by integrating $\partial_t \varphi$ and $\partial_t \tilde{\varphi}$ on $\overline{\mathbf{R}}_+$ fails, since a boundary contribution at $x = 0$ destroys the time-independence. One easily finds however the improved expressions

$$Q = \int_0^\infty dx \partial_t \varphi(t, x) - \tilde{\varphi}(t, 0) \quad , \quad \tilde{Q} = \int_0^\infty dx \partial_t \tilde{\varphi}(t, x) - \varphi(t, 0) \quad , \quad (2.48)$$

which do not have this drawback. In order to give rigorous meaning of eq.(2.48) on quantum level, we consider the finite volume charges

$$Q_r(t) = \int_0^\infty dx f_r(x) \partial_t \varphi(t, x) - \tilde{\varphi}(t, 0) = \int_0^\infty dx [\partial_x f_r(x)] \tilde{\varphi}(t, x) \quad , \quad (2.49)$$

$$\tilde{Q}_r(t) = \int_0^\infty dx f_r(x) \partial_t \tilde{\varphi}(t, x) - \varphi(t, 0) = \int_0^\infty dx [\partial_x f_r(x)] \varphi(t, x) \quad , \quad (2.50)$$

where f_r with $r > 0$ is any smooth function, such that

$$f_r(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & 0 \leq x \leq r ; \\ 0, & r \geq 2r . \end{cases} \quad (2.51)$$

Time-independence must be recovered in this framework in the limit $r \rightarrow \infty$. Indeed, a simple computation shows the existence of the following limits

$$[Q, \varphi(t, x)] \equiv \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} [Q_r(t_0), \varphi(t, x)] = \begin{cases} -i, & \eta = 0 ; \\ 0, & 0 < \eta \leq \infty , \end{cases} \quad (2.52)$$

$$[\tilde{Q}, \tilde{\varphi}(t, x)] \equiv \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} [\tilde{Q}_r(t_0), \tilde{\varphi}(t, x)] = \begin{cases} 0, & \eta = 0 ; \\ -i, & 0 < \eta \leq \infty , \end{cases} \quad (2.53)$$

$$[Q, \tilde{\varphi}(t, x)] \equiv \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} [Q_r(t_0), \tilde{\varphi}(t, x)] = 0 , \quad (2.54)$$

$$[\tilde{Q}, \varphi(t, x)] \equiv \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} [\tilde{Q}_r(t_0), \varphi(t, x)] = 0 , \quad (2.55)$$

which actually define the quantum charges Q and \tilde{Q} . Provided that Q (\tilde{Q}) is nonvanishing, it generates S (\tilde{S}). Moreover, in the range of η where Q is nontrivial, \tilde{Q} acts trivially and vice versa. This kind of complementarity suggests to introduce the charge $Q + \tilde{Q}$, which defines according to eqs.(2.52-55), a nontrivial automorphism τ in the algebra generated by φ and $\tilde{\varphi}$. In the Fock representation \mathcal{F} , described above, the symmetry associated with τ is spontaneously broken. Indeed, from (2.52-55) one has

$$\langle \Omega, [Q + \tilde{Q}, \varphi(t, x) + \tilde{\varphi}(t, x)] \Omega \rangle = -i \neq 0 , \quad (2.56)$$

In the absence of a boundary, the fields φ and $\tilde{\varphi}$ possess also a striking discrete symmetry under the exchange (duality) transformation $\varphi(t, x) \longleftrightarrow \tilde{\varphi}(t, x)$. Equivalently,

$$\varphi_R(t, x) \longmapsto \varphi_R(t, x) , \quad \varphi_L(t, x) \longmapsto -\varphi_L(t, x) , \quad (2.57)$$

which give the origin of the celebrated T-duality in string theory. Performing (2.57) in the two-point functions (2.35-37), we deduce that duality on the half line is broken for any fixed value of the boundary parameter η . We find in particular that the correlation functions for $\eta = 0$ are related with those for $\eta = \infty$ by the transformation (2.57). In

this sense the Neumann and Dirichlet boundary conditions are related by duality, which is in agreement also with eqs.(2.19,20).

We conclude here our account on the basic features of the fields φ and $\tilde{\varphi}$ on $\mathbf{R} \times \overline{\mathbf{R}}_+$. In the next section we will apply these results for the construction of anyon fields in the presence of boundary.

3. Anyon Fields

The concept of statistics in conventional quantum field theory is deeply related to locality and relativistic invariance. The latter is broken on $\mathbf{R} \times \overline{\mathbf{R}}_+$, but nevertheless, as shown in the previous section, the fields φ and $\tilde{\varphi}$ preserve quite remarkably some essential locality properties. We will see below that they are enough for constructing fields possessing in general anyonic statistics on the half line. Indeed, let us introduce for any couple $\zeta = (\alpha, \beta)$ of real numbers the field

$$A(t, x; \zeta) = z(\mu) : \exp[i\sqrt{\pi}(\alpha\varphi + \beta\tilde{\varphi})] : (t, x) , \quad (3.1)$$

where the normal ordering $: \ : :$ is taken with respect to the creation and annihilation operators $\{a^*(k), a(k) : k > 0\}$ and

$$z(\mu) = \begin{cases} \mu^{\frac{1}{2}\alpha^2}, & \eta = 0 ; \\ \mu^{\frac{1}{2}\beta^2}, & 0 < \eta \leq \infty . \end{cases} \quad (3.2)$$

The normalization factor $z(\mu)$ is chosen for later convenience. Eq.(3.1) defines kind of “vertex” operators on the half line, which are the main subject of this section.

Let us concentrate first on the exchange properties of $A(t, x; \zeta)$. A standard calculation gives ($t_{12} \equiv t_1 - t_2$)

$$A(t_1, x_1; \zeta_1)A(t_2, x_2; \zeta_2) = \mathcal{R}(t_{12}, x_1, x_2; \zeta_1, \zeta_2) A(t_2, x_2; \zeta_2)A(t_1, x_1; \zeta_1) , \quad (3.3)$$

with exchange factor \mathcal{R} given by

$$\mathcal{R}(t, x_1, x_2; \zeta_1, \zeta_2) =$$

$$\exp\left\{-i\pi[(\alpha_1\alpha_2 + \beta_1\beta_2)D(t, x_1 - x_2) + (\alpha_1\alpha_2 - \beta_1\beta_2)D_\eta(t, x_1 + x_2) + (\alpha_1\beta_2 + \alpha_2\beta_1)\tilde{D}(t, x_1 - x_2) + (\alpha_1\beta_2 - \alpha_2\beta_1)\tilde{D}_\eta(t, x_1 + x_2)]\right\} . \quad (3.4)$$

The statistics of the field (3.1) is governed by the behavior of (3.4) for $\zeta_1 = \zeta_2 = \zeta$ and space-like separated points $|t_{12}| < |x_1 - x_2|$. Using eqs.(2.24-27) one gets in this domain

$$A(t_1, x_1; \zeta)A(t_2, x_2; \zeta) = \exp[-i\pi\alpha\beta\varepsilon(x_1 - x_2)] A(t_2, x_2; \zeta)A(t_1, x_1; \zeta) . \quad (3.5)$$

Therefore $A(t, x; \zeta)$ is an anyon field whose statistics parameter is

$$\vartheta = \alpha\beta . \quad (3.6)$$

One recovers Bose or Fermi statistics when ϑ is an even or odd integer respectively. The remaining values of ϑ lead to abelian braid statistics. The basic ingredient staying behind these generalized statistics is clearly the relative non-locality of φ and $\tilde{\varphi}$.

Let us establish now the correlation functions of the A -fields, isolating, for further convenience, the μ -dependence. The one-point function reads

$$\langle \Omega, A(t, x; \zeta) \Omega \rangle = 1 . \quad (3.7)$$

For $n \geq 2$ one finds

$$\langle \Omega, A(t_1, x_1; \zeta_1) \cdots A(t_n, x_n; \zeta_n) \Omega \rangle = \mu^{\frac{1}{2}s(\zeta_1, \dots, \zeta_n; \eta)^2} \exp \sum_{\substack{i,j=1 \\ i < j}}^n W_{ij}(t_{ij}, x_i, x_j; \eta) , \quad (3.8)$$

where

$$s(\zeta_1, \dots, \zeta_n; \eta) = \begin{cases} \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i, & \eta = 0 ; \\ \sum_{i=1}^n \beta_i, & 0 < \eta \leq \infty . \end{cases} \quad (3.9)$$

The μ -independent functions W_{ij} , given explicitly in Appendix B, are linear combinations of the distributions u and v_\pm (see eqs.(2.39,40)) with coefficients which are quadratic in the components of ζ_i and ζ_j . From eqs.(3.8,9) one can extract relevant information about the existence of a physical subspace with positive metric. Indeed, let us select among all correlators (3.8), those which are invariant under the automorphism τ generated by $Q + \tilde{Q}$. One easily finds that they are characterized by the condition

$$s(\zeta_1, \dots, \zeta_n; \eta) = 0 , \quad (3.10)$$

which implies that the τ -invariant vacuum expectation values of the A -fields do not depend on the infra-red parameter μ . Since negative metric states have infra-red origin, one may expect that τ -invariance leads to positive definiteness. This last property is crucial for the physical interpretation and needs a careful treatment. The direct investigation of the functions (3.8) is a hard job, because W_{ij} are quite involved (see eqs.(B.1-3)). For this reason we will adapt to our case the approach developed in [13,23] for studying positivity in the massless Thirring model on the plane.

Let us consider the algebra \mathcal{A}_λ generated by $\{a_\lambda^*(k), a_\lambda(k) : k \geq 0\}$, satisfying the commutation relations

$$[a_\lambda(k), a_\lambda(p)] = [a_\lambda^*(k), a_\lambda^*(p)] = 0 \quad , \quad (3.11)$$

$$[a_\lambda(k), a_\lambda^*(p)] = 2\pi\theta(k)(k + \lambda)^{-1} \delta(k - p) \quad , \quad (3.12)$$

where $\lambda > 0$ has the dimension of a mass. Since $\theta(k)(k + \lambda)^{-1}$ is a positive definite distribution, \mathcal{A}_λ admits a positive metric Fock representation \mathcal{F}_λ . We denote by $(\cdot, \cdot)_\lambda$ and Ω_λ the scalar product and vacuum state in \mathcal{F}_λ respectively and define φ_λ and $\tilde{\varphi}_\lambda$ by substituting $\{a(k), a^*(k)\}$ in eqs.(2.17,18) with $\{a_\lambda(k), a_\lambda^*(k)\}$. Compared to φ and $\tilde{\varphi}$, the fields φ_λ and $\tilde{\varphi}_\lambda$ still satisfy eqs.(2.1,3), but have worse locality properties. Nevertheless, they are very useful for facing the positivity problem. For this purpose we introduce

$$A_\lambda(t, x; \zeta) = z(\lambda e^{\gamma_E}) : \exp[i\sqrt{\pi}(\alpha\varphi_\lambda + \beta\tilde{\varphi}_\lambda)] : (t, x) \quad , \quad (3.13)$$

where the normal ordering $: \ : :$ refers to $\{a_\lambda(k), a_\lambda^*(k)\}$. The main idea now is to relate the expectation values of the A_λ -fields with those of A and use the positivity of the metric in \mathcal{F}_λ . In doing that we first need the λ -counterparts of the correlation functions (2.35-40). One easily finds

$$w_{RR}^\lambda(\xi_1, \xi_2) = w_{LL}^\lambda(\xi_1, \xi_2) = v(\lambda\xi_{12}) \quad , \quad (3.14)$$

$$w_{RL}^\lambda(\xi_1, \xi_2) = \begin{cases} v(\lambda\xi_{12}), & \eta = 0; \\ \frac{\lambda+i\eta}{\lambda-i\eta} v(\lambda\xi_{12}) + \frac{i\eta}{\lambda-i\eta} v_-(\eta\xi_{12}), & 0 < \eta < \infty; \\ -v(\lambda\xi_{12}) & \eta = \infty, \end{cases} \quad (3.15)$$

$$w_{LR}^\lambda(\xi_1, \xi_2) = \begin{cases} v(\lambda\xi_{12}) , & \eta = 0; \\ \frac{\lambda-i\eta}{\lambda+i\eta} v(\lambda\xi_{12}) - \frac{i\eta}{\lambda+i\eta} v_+(-\eta\xi_{12}) , & 0 < \eta < \infty; \\ -v(\lambda\xi_{12}) & \eta = \infty. \end{cases} \quad (3.16)$$

The new function v , appearing in (3.14-16), is

$$v(\xi) = -\frac{1}{\pi} e^{i\xi} \operatorname{Ei}(-i\xi - \epsilon) . \quad (3.17)$$

By means of eqs.(3.14-17) it is not difficult to show at this point that

$$\langle \Omega, A(t_1, x_1; \zeta_1) \cdots A(t_n, x_n; \zeta_n) \Omega \rangle = \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0} (\Omega_\lambda, A_\lambda(t_1, x_1; \zeta_1) \cdots A_\lambda(t_n, x_n; \zeta_n) \Omega_\lambda)_\lambda , \quad (3.18)$$

provided that (3.10) holds. The limit in eq.(3.18) is in the sense of distributions. Since the expectation values of A_λ are positive definite by construction, from (3.18) we infer that the same is true for those correlators (3.8), which are τ -invariant. This concludes the argument.

Besides ensuring positivity, in the cases of Neumann and Dirichlet boundary conditions, the τ -invariance implies in addition the following factorization property under dilatations (2.46). Indeed, assuming that $s(\zeta_1, \dots, \zeta_{k+m}; \eta) = 0$, one finds

$$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{\varrho \downarrow 0} \varrho^{\frac{1}{2}q(\zeta_{k+1}, \dots, \zeta_{k+m}; \eta)} \langle \Omega, A(t_1, x_1; \zeta_1) \cdots A(t_k, x_k; \zeta_k) \cdot \\ & \quad A(\varrho t_{k+1}, \varrho x_{k+1}; \zeta_{k+1}) \cdots A(\varrho t_{k+m}, \varrho x_{k+m}; \zeta_{k+m}) \Omega \rangle \\ &= \begin{cases} \langle \Omega, A(t_1, x_1; \zeta_1) \cdots A(t_k, x_k; \zeta_k) \Omega \rangle \cdot \\ \langle \Omega, A(t_{k+1}, x_{k+1}; \zeta_{k+1}) \cdots A(t_{k+m}, x_{k+m}; \zeta_{k+m}) \Omega \rangle , & \text{if } s(\zeta_1, \dots, \zeta_k; \eta) = 0 ; \\ 0 , & \text{if } s(\zeta_1, \dots, \zeta_k; \eta) \neq 0 , \end{cases} \end{aligned} \quad (3.19)$$

where

$$q(\zeta_1, \dots, \zeta_n; \eta) = \begin{cases} \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i^2 , & \eta = 0 ; \\ \sum_{i=1}^n \beta_i^2 , & \eta = \infty . \end{cases} \quad (3.20)$$

We will discuss the physical relevance of eq.(3.19) few lines below.

The results of this section allow to construct a physical (positive metric) representations of the anyon fields under consideration. One can proceed as follows. Fixing a set $\mathcal{Z} = \{\zeta_1, -\zeta_1, \dots, \zeta_n, -\zeta_n\}$, we consider the family of all τ -invariant correlation functions

of $\{A(t, x; \zeta) : \zeta \in \mathcal{Z}\}$. Via the reconstruction theorem [20], this family determines (up to unitary equivalence) a Hilbert space $\{\mathcal{H}_{\text{ph}}, (\cdot, \cdot)\}$, a vacuum state $\Omega_{\text{ph}} \in \mathcal{H}_{\text{ph}}$ and quantum fields $\{A_{\text{ph}}(t, x; \zeta) : \zeta \in \mathcal{Z}\}$, such that

$$(\Omega_{\text{ph}}, A_{\text{ph}}(t_1, x_1; \zeta_{i_1}) \cdots A_{\text{ph}}(t_k, x_k; \zeta_{i_k}) \Omega_{\text{ph}}) \\ = \begin{cases} \langle \Omega, A(t_1, x_1; \zeta_{i_1}) \cdots A(t_k, x_k; \zeta_{i_k}) \Omega \rangle, & \text{if } s(\zeta_{i_1}, \dots, \zeta_{i_k}; \eta) = 0; \\ 0, & \text{if } s(\zeta_{i_1}, \dots, \zeta_{i_k}; \eta) \neq 0. \end{cases} \quad (3.21)$$

The vacuum expectation values (3.21) are invariant under time translations and admit an analytic continuation in the domain defined by shifting any time variable according to $t_j \mapsto \tau_j - i\sigma_j$ with $\sigma_1 > \sigma_2 > \dots > \sigma_k$. The correlation functions, obtained in this way, satisfy a kind of cluster property under translation of σ -clusters, respecting the order of σ_j . This fact suggests [20] that the physical representation at hand is irreducible.

In the special cases $\eta = 0$ and $\eta = \infty$, the correlation functions (3.21) do not involve dimensional parameters and one can easily check that the dilatations (2.46) are unitarily implemented. In other words, there exists a unitary representation $U(\varrho)$ of the dilatation group in \mathcal{H}_{ph} , such that:

$$U(\varrho) \Omega_{\text{ph}} = \Omega_{\text{ph}} , \quad (3.22)$$

$$U(\varrho) A_{\text{ph}}(t, x; \zeta) U(\varrho)^{-1} = \varrho^{d_\zeta} A_{\text{ph}}(\varrho t, \varrho x; \zeta) , \quad \zeta \in \mathcal{Z} , \quad (3.23)$$

where d_ζ is the scale dimension given by

$$d_\zeta = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}\alpha^2, & \eta = 0; \\ \frac{1}{2}\beta^2, & \eta = \infty. \end{cases} \quad (3.24)$$

Combining eq.(3.19) and eqs.(3.21-24), one gets also that

$$\lim_{\varrho \downarrow 0} (\Omega_{\text{ph}}, A_{\text{ph}}(t_1, x_1; \zeta_{i_1}) \cdots A_{\text{ph}}(t_k, x_k; \zeta_{i_k}) U(\varrho) \cdot \\ A_{\text{ph}}(t_{k+1}, x_{k+1}; \zeta_{i_{k+1}}) \cdots A_{\text{ph}}(t_{k+m}, x_{k+m}; \zeta_{i_{k+m}}) \Omega_{\text{ph}}) \\ = (\Omega_{\text{ph}}, A_{\text{ph}}(t_1, x_1; \zeta_{i_1}) \cdots A_{\text{ph}}(t_k, x_k; \zeta_{i_k}) \Omega_{\text{ph}}) \cdot \\ (\Omega_{\text{ph}}, A_{\text{ph}}(t_{k+1}, x_{k+1}; \zeta_{i_{k+1}}) \cdots A_{\text{ph}}(t_{k+m}, x_{k+m}; \zeta_{i_{k+m}}) \Omega_{\text{ph}}) . \quad (3.25)$$

Eq.(3.25) represents a sort of cluster decomposition property related to dilatations instead to the conventionally considered [20] translations in space. Accordingly, a straightforward modification of the argument in Theorem 3-7 of [20] implies that Ω_{ph} is the unique dilatation invariant state in \mathcal{H}_{ph} .

Summarizing, given a set \mathcal{Z} , we have constructed a physical (positive metric) representation of the associated anyon fields. In the sequel we will use such representations for bosonization and more generally, for studying quantum field theory models on the half line. For conciseness we shall omit the index “ph”, but one should keep in mind that A and A_{ph} are different fields. Finally, in what follows we will have the occasion to use anyon fields simultaneously involving φ_1 and φ_2 associated with two different boundary parameters η_1 and η_2 . Let us consider for instance

$$A'(t, x; \zeta) = \mu^{\frac{1}{2}(\alpha^2 + \beta^2)} : \exp\{i\sqrt{\pi}[\alpha(\varphi_1 + \varphi_2) + \beta(\tilde{\varphi}_1 + \tilde{\varphi}_2)]\} : (t, x) , \quad (3.26)$$

with $\eta_1 = 0$ and $\eta_2 = \infty$. In this case the correlation functions

$$\langle \Omega, A'(t_1, x_1; \zeta_1) \cdots A'(t_n, x_n; \zeta_n) \Omega \rangle$$

are τ -invariant only if both selection rules

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i = 0 \quad , \quad \sum_{i=1}^n \beta_i = 0 \quad , \quad (3.27)$$

are satisfied. Taking into account (3.27), the construction of the physical representation of $\{A'(t, x; \zeta) : \zeta \in \mathcal{Z}\}$ follows the scheme developed above.

4. Bosonization

In this section we address the problem of bosonization of the free massless Dirac field ψ on the half line $\overline{\mathbf{R}}_+$. The equation of motion is

$$(\gamma_t \partial_t - \gamma_x \partial_x) \psi(t, x) = 0 \quad , \quad (4.1)$$

where

$$\psi(t, x) = \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1(t, x) \\ \psi_2(t, x) \end{pmatrix}, \quad \gamma_t = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \gamma_x = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (4.2)$$

The standard vector and axial currents are

$$j_\nu(t, x) = \bar{\psi}(t, x)\gamma_\nu\psi(t, x), \quad j_\nu^5(t, x) = \bar{\psi}(t, x)\gamma_\nu\gamma^5\psi(t, x), \quad \nu = t, x, \quad (4.3)$$

with $\psi \equiv \psi^*\gamma_t$ and $\gamma^5 \equiv -\gamma_t\gamma_x$. From eq.(4.1) it follows that both j_ν and j_ν^5 are conserved. Moreover, the γ^5 -identities $\gamma_t\gamma^5 = -\gamma_x$ and $\gamma_x\gamma^5 = -\gamma_t$ imply the relations

$$\dot{j}_t^5 = -j_x, \quad j_x^5 = -j_t. \quad (4.4)$$

Our main goal below will be to quantize (4.1) in terms of the fields φ and $\tilde{\varphi}$, establishing the boundary conditions on ψ encoded in the parameter η . For this purpose we set

$$\psi_1(t, x) = \chi_1 A(t, x; \zeta_1 = (\alpha, \alpha)) = \chi_1 z(\mu) : \exp(i\sqrt{\pi}\alpha\varphi_R) : (t - x), \quad (4.5)$$

$$\psi_2(t, x) = \chi_2 A(t, x; \zeta_2 = (\alpha, -\alpha)) = \chi_2 z(\mu) : \exp(i\sqrt{\pi}\alpha\varphi_L) : (t + x), \quad (4.6)$$

where $\chi_1, \chi_2 \in \mathbf{C}$ and $0 \leq \eta \leq \infty$ are for the moment free parameters. One easily shows that ψ , given by eqs.(4.5,6), satisfies the Dirac equation. As a direct consequence of eqs.(3.3,4), one also finds that ψ has Fermi statistics

$$\psi_i(t_1, x_1)\psi_j(t_2, x_2) = -\psi_j(t_2, x_2)\psi_i(t_1, x_1), \quad |t_{12}| < |x_1 - x_2|, \quad (4.7)$$

provided that

$$\alpha^2 = 2k + 1, \quad k \in \mathbf{N}. \quad (4.8)$$

We impose the condition (4.8) throughout this section.

The next step is to define the quantized currents (4.3). We will use the point splitting procedure [24], starting from the expression

$$j_\nu(t, x) = \frac{1}{2} \lim_{\epsilon_x \downarrow 0} Z(\epsilon_x; \alpha) [\bar{\psi}(t, x)\gamma_\nu\psi(t, x + \epsilon_x) + \bar{\psi}(t, x + \epsilon_x)\gamma_\nu\psi(t, x)], \quad (4.9)$$

where $Z(\epsilon_x; \alpha)$ implements the renormalization. Separating only the space coordinate x in (4.9) turns out to be enough and is quite natural on $\mathbf{R} \times \overline{\mathbf{R}}_+$, where Lorentz invariance is any way broken. The basic general formula for evaluating (4.9), is obtained by normal ordering the product $A^*(t, x + \epsilon_x; \zeta)A(t, x; \zeta)$. One has

$$\begin{aligned} A^*(t, x + \epsilon_x; \zeta)A(t, x; \zeta) = \\ z(\mu)^2 : \exp \left\{ i\sqrt{\pi} [\alpha\varphi(t, x) - \alpha\varphi(t, x + \epsilon_x) + \beta\tilde{\varphi}(t, x) - \beta\tilde{\varphi}(t, x + \epsilon_x)] \right\} : \\ \exp \left\{ \frac{\pi}{4} [(\alpha+\beta)^2 w_{RR}(-\epsilon_x) + (\alpha-\beta)^2 w_{LL}(\epsilon_x) + (\alpha^2 - \beta^2)(w_{RL}(-2x - \epsilon_x) + w_{LR}(2x + \epsilon_x))] \right\}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.10)$$

Eq.(4.10) keeps manifestly trace of the new intrinsic features of the theory on the half line, namely, the breakdown of translation invariance and the lack of left-right factorization, detected in section 2. At this point one should take into account however, that for the particular values of ζ_1 and ζ_2 in eqs.(4.5,6), the w_{LR} and w_{RL} contributions in (4.10) drop out. Assuming the normalization

$$|\chi_1|^2 = |\chi_2|^2 = \frac{1}{2\pi}, \quad (4.11)$$

and setting

$$Z(\epsilon_x; \alpha) = \frac{\epsilon_x^{\alpha^2-1}}{\alpha \sin(\frac{\pi}{2}\alpha^2)}, \quad (4.12)$$

one finds the conserved current

$$j_\nu(t, x) = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \partial_\nu \varphi(t, x), \quad (4.13)$$

thus recovering the same type of relation as in the conventional bosonization on the whole line [18,19].

In analogy with (4.9) we introduce the axial current by

$$j_\nu^5(t, x) = \frac{1}{2} \lim_{\epsilon_x \downarrow 0} Z(\epsilon_x; \alpha) [\bar{\psi}(t, x)\gamma_\nu\gamma^5\psi(t, x + \epsilon_x) + \bar{\psi}(t, x + \epsilon_x)\gamma_\nu\gamma^5\psi(t, x)]. \quad (4.14)$$

The vector current result and the γ^5 -identities directly imply that the limit in the right hand side of (4.14) exists and

$$j_\nu^5(t, x) = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \partial_\nu \tilde{\varphi}(t, x). \quad (4.15)$$

The classical relations (4.4) are therefore respected also on quantum level.

Eqs.(4.13,15) have various important consequences. First of all they imply that the boundary conditions on ψ are most conveniently formulated in terms of the currents. Indeed, according to eqs.(2.19,20) one has that

$$\lim_{x \downarrow 0} j_x(t, x) = 0 \quad (4.16)$$

is realized when $\eta = 0$, whereas

$$\lim_{x \downarrow 0} j_x^5(t, x) = 0 \quad (4.17)$$

holds for $\eta = \infty$. In the domain $0 < \eta < \infty$ one has instead

$$\lim_{x \downarrow 0} (\partial_x - \eta) j_x^5(t, x) = 0 \quad . \quad (4.18)$$

In verifying (4.18), one has to exchange the order of two operations - a limit and a derivative. By inspection, this is correct in the case under consideration.

Using our previous results on the charges (2.52-55), we can investigate now the impact of the boundary conditions (4.16-18) on the symmetry content of our bosonization construction. We will concentrate for simplicity on the values $\eta = 0$ and $\eta = \infty$. Combining eqs.(2.4,19,20) and (2.49,50), in these cases the charges

$$\mathcal{Q} = -\frac{1}{\alpha\sqrt{\pi}} Q \quad , \quad \mathcal{Q}^5 = -\frac{1}{\alpha\sqrt{\pi}} \tilde{Q} \quad , \quad (4.19)$$

can be expressed entirely in terms of j_t or j_t^5 .

Let us examine first the $\eta = 0$ (vector) phase. One finds

$$[\mathcal{Q}, \psi(t, x)] = -\psi(t, x) \quad , \quad [\mathcal{Q}, \bar{\psi}(t, x)] = \bar{\psi}(t, x) \quad , \quad (4.20)$$

which induce the conventional automorphism associated with the vector current. Following the general scheme developed in the previous section, the physical representation is reconstructed from the \mathcal{Q} -invariant correlation functions of ψ and $\bar{\psi}$. According to eqs.(2.53,55), the chiral charge \mathcal{Q}^5 generates in this phase the identity automorphism, which allows for a left-right mixing. For example, the only nontrivial two-point functions are

$$\langle \Omega, \psi_i^*(t_1, x_1) \psi_j(t_2, x_2) \Omega \rangle = \frac{1}{2\pi} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{[it_{12} - i(x_1 - x_2) + \epsilon]^{\alpha^2}} & \frac{2\pi\bar{\chi}_1 \chi_2}{[it_{12} - i(x_1 + x_2) + \epsilon]^{\alpha^2}} \\ \frac{2\pi\chi_1 \bar{\chi}_2}{[it_{12} + i(x_1 + x_2) + \epsilon]^{\alpha^2}} & \frac{1}{[it_{12} + i(x_1 - x_2) + \epsilon]^{\alpha^2}} \end{pmatrix} \quad , \quad (4.21)$$

$$\langle \Omega, \psi_i(t_1, x_1) \psi_j^*(t_2, x_2) \Omega \rangle = \frac{1}{2\pi} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{[it_{12}-i(x_1-x_2)+\epsilon]^{\alpha^2}} & \frac{2\pi\chi_1\bar{\chi}_2}{[it_{12}-i(x_1+x_2)+\epsilon]^{\alpha^2}} \\ \frac{2\pi\bar{\chi}_1\chi_2}{[it_{12}+i(x_1+x_2)+\epsilon]^{\alpha^2}} & \frac{1}{[it_{12}+i(x_1-x_2)+\epsilon]^{\alpha^2}} \end{pmatrix} . \quad (4.22)$$

The off-diagonal elements of (4.21,22) describe the left-right mixing. The mixing parameter $\bar{\chi}_1\chi_2$ is clearly invariant under vector transformations.

For $\eta = \infty$ (axial phase) one has in some sense the opposite situation: the charge \mathcal{Q} acts trivially, but \mathcal{Q}^5 generates the axial transformations

$$[\mathcal{Q}^5, \psi_R(t, x)] = -\psi_R(t_2, y) , \quad [\mathcal{Q}^5, \psi_L(t, x)] = \psi_L(t, x) , \quad (4.23)$$

where

$$\psi_R \equiv \frac{1}{2}(1 + \gamma^5)\psi = \psi_1 , \quad \psi_L \equiv \frac{1}{2}(1 - \gamma^5)\psi = \psi_2 . \quad (4.24)$$

The \mathcal{Q}^5 -invariant correlators give rise to the physical representation. In this phase the left-right mixing is forbidden, but there exist nontrivial correlators with nonvanishing total \mathcal{Q} -charge. The complete set of two-point functions is:

$$\langle \Omega, \psi_i(t_1, x_1) \psi_j(t_2, x_2) \Omega \rangle = \chi_1 \chi_2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{[it_{12}-i(x_1+x_2)+\epsilon]^{\alpha^2}} \\ \frac{1}{[it_{12}+i(x_1+x_2)+\epsilon]^{\alpha^2}} & 0 \end{pmatrix} , \quad (4.25)$$

$$\langle \Omega, \psi_i^*(t_1, x_1) \psi_j^*(t_2, x_2) \Omega \rangle = \bar{\chi}_1 \bar{\chi}_2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{[it_{12}-i(x_1+x_2)+\epsilon]^{\alpha^2}} \\ \frac{1}{[it_{12}+i(x_1+x_2)+\epsilon]^{\alpha^2}} & 0 \end{pmatrix} , \quad (4.26)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \Omega, \psi_i(t_1, x_1) \psi_j^*(t_2, x_2) \Omega \rangle &= \langle \Omega, \psi_i^*(t_1, x_1) \psi_j(t_2, x_2) \Omega \rangle = \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{[it_{12}-i(x_1-x_2)+\epsilon]^{\alpha^2}} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{[it_{12}+i(x_1-x_2)+\epsilon]^{\alpha^2}} \end{pmatrix} . \end{aligned} \quad (4.27)$$

The mixing parameter is now $\chi_1 \chi_2$ and is invariant under axial transformations.

This is the right point to clarify the role of the duality in the above scheme. Translating the transformation (2.57) in terms of ψ , one finds

$$\psi_1(t, x) \mapsto \psi_1(t, x) , \quad \psi_2(t, x) \mapsto \frac{\chi_2}{\bar{\chi}_2} \psi_2^*(t, x) . \quad (4.28)$$

Using (4.28), one can verify that duality maps the vector phase in the axial one and vice versa. The two-point functions (4.21,22,25-27) provide useful checks.

In the light of these results, one may ask if fields of the type (3.26), combining different boundary conditions, can provide a bosonized solution of eq.(4.1) in which *both* vector and chiral symmetry are nontrivially implemented (vector-axial phase). For answering this question we consider

$$\psi_1(t, x) = \frac{z(\mu)}{\sqrt{2\pi}} : \exp \left[i\alpha \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2}} (\varphi_{1_R} + \varphi_{2_R}) \right] : (t - x) , \quad (4.29)$$

$$\psi_2(t, x) = \frac{z(\mu)}{\sqrt{2\pi}} : \exp \left[i\alpha \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2}} (\varphi_{1_L} + \varphi_{2_L}) \right] : (t + x) , \quad (4.30)$$

where φ_1 and φ_2 satisfy Neumann and Dirichlet boundary conditions respectively. It is easily seen that eqs.(4.29,30) define a solution of eq.(4.1) with Fermi statistics. Defining the currents as in (4.9,14), with the renormalization constant given by (4.12), we obtain

$$j_\nu(t, x) = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} [\partial_\nu \varphi_1(t, x) + \partial_\nu \varphi_2(t, x)] , \quad (4.31)$$

$$j_\nu^5(t, x) = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} [\partial_\nu \tilde{\varphi}_1(t, x) + \partial_\nu \tilde{\varphi}_2(t, x)] . \quad (4.32)$$

The corresponding charges generate (4.20) and (4.23) simultaneously, which answers affirmatively our question. The correlation functions defining the physical representation are both \mathcal{Q} and \mathcal{Q}^5 -invariant. For instance, the only nontrivial two-point functions are (4.27).

In order to find the relative boundary condition, we proceed as follows. The solution (4.29,30) is based on two copies of creation and annihilation operators $\{a_1^*(k), a_1(k) : k > 0\}$ and $\{a_2^*(k), a_2(k) : k > 0\}$, satisfying (2.15,16) and acting in the Fock spaces \mathcal{F}_1 and \mathcal{F}_2 respectively. Since these Fock representations are unitary equivalent, there exists a unitary operator $U : \mathcal{F}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_2$, such that

$$a_1(k) = U a_2(k) U^{-1} , \quad a_1^*(k) = U a_2^*(k) U^{-1} . \quad (4.33)$$

Using this fact and eqs.(2.19,20), one concludes that the solution (4.29,30) satisfies

$$\lim_{x \downarrow 0} j_x(t, x) = U \left[\lim_{x \downarrow 0} j_x^5(t, x) \right] U^{-1} . \quad (4.34)$$

which represents a sort of vector-axial symmetric boundary condition.

It is worth mentioning that dilatations give rise to an exact symmetry in any of the three phases considered above and

$$d_\psi = \frac{1}{2}\alpha^2 = k + \frac{1}{2} \quad , \quad k \in \mathbf{N} \quad . \quad (4.35)$$

Summarizing, we established a bosonization procedure for the free massless Dirac equation in $\mathbf{R} \times \overline{\mathbf{R}}_+$. An essential new feature is the close relationship between boundary conditions on the scalar potential φ and the symmetry content of the corresponding physical representation of ψ . Taking as an example the massless Thirring model, we will discuss in the next section the new features related to the bosonization of fermion fields satisfying nonlinear equations on the half line.

5. The Thirring Model on the Half Line

The classical equation of motion for the massless Thirring model [25] is

$$i(\gamma_t \partial_t - \gamma_x \partial_x) \Psi(t, x) = g [\gamma_t J_t(t, x) - \gamma_x J_x(t, x)] \Psi(t, x) \quad , \quad (5.1)$$

where $g \in \mathbf{R}$ is the coupling constant and J_ν is the conserved current

$$J_\nu(t, x) = \overline{\Psi}(t, x) \gamma_\nu \Psi(t, x) \quad . \quad (5.2)$$

As well known, the axial current

$$J_\nu^5(t, x) = \overline{\Psi}(t, x) \gamma_\nu \gamma^5 \Psi(t, x) \quad (5.3)$$

is also conserved. We shall investigate below the Thirring model on $\mathbf{R} \times \overline{\mathbf{R}}_+$, concentrating first to the phases corresponding to the *vector*

$$\lim_{x \downarrow 0} J_x(t, x) = 0 \quad , \quad (5.4)$$

and the *axial* boundary condition

$$\lim_{x \downarrow 0} J_x^5(t, x) = 0 \quad (5.5)$$

respectively.

For quantizing the system, we consider the fields

$$\Psi_1(t, x) = \chi_1 A(t, x; \zeta_1 = (\alpha, \beta)) = \chi_1 z(\mu) : \exp[i\sqrt{\pi}(\alpha\varphi + \beta\tilde{\varphi})] : (t, x) , \quad (5.6)$$

$$\Psi_2(t, x) = \chi_2 A(t, x; \zeta_2 = (\alpha, -\beta)) = \chi_2 z(\mu) : \exp[i\sqrt{\pi}(\alpha\varphi - \beta\tilde{\varphi})] : (t, x) . \quad (5.7)$$

The main point is the construction of the quantum currents J_ν and J_ν^5 . In analogy with (4.9) we set

$$J_\nu(t, x) = \frac{1}{2} \lim_{\epsilon_x \downarrow 0} Z_\nu(x, \epsilon_x; \alpha, \beta) (\overline{\Psi}(t, x)\gamma_\nu\Psi(t, x + \epsilon_x) + \overline{\Psi}(t, x + \epsilon_x)\gamma_\nu\Psi(t, x)) . \quad (5.8)$$

There is no summation over ν in (5.8) and the presence of two x -dependent renormalization constants Z_t and Z_x reflects the fact both translation and Lorentz invariance are broken. We also define

$$J_\nu^5(t, x) = \frac{1}{2} \lim_{\epsilon_x \downarrow 0} Z_\nu^5(x, \epsilon_x; \alpha, \beta) (\overline{\Psi}(t, x)\gamma_\nu\gamma^5\Psi(t, x + \epsilon_x) + \overline{\Psi}(t, x + \epsilon_x)\gamma_\nu\gamma^5\Psi(t, x)) , \quad (5.9)$$

Z_ν^5 being the chiral counterpart of Z_ν . Our aim now will be to determine the parameters $\eta \geq 0$ and $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbf{R}$, such that:

- (i) Ψ obeys Fermi statistics;
- (ii) there exist suitable renormalization functions Z_ν and Z_ν^5 for which the limits in the right hand sides of eqs.(5.8,9) exist and give

$$J_\nu(t, x) = \frac{-1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \partial_\nu \varphi(t, x) , \quad J_\nu^5(t, x) = \frac{-1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \partial_\nu \tilde{\varphi}(t, x) ; \quad (5.10)$$

- (iii) the quantum equation of motion, which in agreement with (5.10) takes the form

$$i(\gamma_t \partial_t - \gamma_x \partial_x) \Psi(t, x) = -\frac{g}{\sqrt{\pi}} : (\gamma_t \partial_t \varphi - \gamma_x \partial_x \varphi) \Psi : (t, x) , \quad (5.11)$$

is satisfied;

- (iv) either the vector or the axial boundary condition is fulfilled.

From (i) one can easily deduce that

$$\alpha\beta = 2k + 1 , \quad k \in \mathbf{Z} . \quad (5.12)$$

Provided that (ii) holds, point (iv) implies

$$\eta = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{vector b.c.} \\ \infty, & \text{axial b.c.} \end{cases} \quad (5.13)$$

For these values of η , the general formula (4.10) gives

$$\frac{1}{2} [\Psi_1^*(t, x + \epsilon_x) \Psi_1(t, x) + \Psi_1^*(t, x) \Psi_1(t, x + \epsilon_x)] =$$

$$\frac{1}{2\sqrt{\pi}} K(x, \epsilon_x; \alpha, \beta) \{ \epsilon_x [\alpha \partial_x \varphi(t, x) - \beta \partial_t \varphi(t, x)] + O(\epsilon_x^2) \} \quad , \quad (5.14)$$

$$\frac{1}{2} [\Psi_2^*(t, x + \epsilon_x) \Psi_2(t, x) + \Psi_2^*(t, x) \Psi_2(t, x + \epsilon_x)] =$$

$$\frac{1}{2\sqrt{\pi}} K(x, \epsilon_x; \alpha, \beta) \{ -\epsilon_x [\alpha \partial_x \varphi(t, x) + \beta \partial_t \varphi(t, x)] + O(\epsilon_x^2) \} \quad , \quad (5.15)$$

where

$$K(x, \epsilon_x; \alpha, \beta) = \begin{cases} \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\alpha\beta\right) \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2}[(\alpha^2 + \beta^2)\ln\epsilon_x + (\alpha^2 - \beta^2)\ln 2x]\right\}, & \eta = 0; \\ \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\alpha\beta\right) \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2}[(\alpha^2 + \beta^2)\ln\epsilon_x - (\alpha^2 - \beta^2)\ln 2x]\right\}, & \eta = \infty. \end{cases} \quad (5.16)$$

The combinations (5.14,15) are the building blocks for the construction of both J_ν and J_ν^5 . Defining

$$Z_t(x, \epsilon_x; \alpha, \beta) = Z_x^5(x, \epsilon_x; \alpha, \beta) = [\epsilon_x \beta K(x, \epsilon_x; \alpha, \beta)]^{-1} \quad , \quad (5.17)$$

and

$$Z_x(x, \epsilon_x; \alpha, \beta) = Z_t^5(x, \epsilon_x; \alpha, \beta) = [\epsilon_x \alpha K(x, \epsilon_x; \alpha, \beta)]^{-1} \quad , \quad (5.18)$$

we see that the limits in eqs.(5.8,9) give precisely (5.10). So, we are left with the equation of motion (5.11), which is satisfied provided that

$$\alpha - \beta = \frac{g}{\pi} \quad . \quad (5.19)$$

Combining eq.(5.12) and eq.(5.19), we arrive at two families of solutions

$$\alpha_{1,2} = \frac{g}{2\pi} \pm \sqrt{\frac{g^2}{4\pi^2} + (2k+1)} \quad , \quad \beta_{1,2} = \alpha_{1,2} - \frac{g}{\pi} \quad . \quad (5.20)$$

parametrized by $k \in \mathbf{Z}$ with the constraint

$$2k + 1 \geq -\frac{g^2}{4\pi^2} \quad , \quad (5.21)$$

ensuring that $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbf{R}$. The freedom associated with k is present also in the Thirring model on the plane. Lorentz invariance is however preserved there and if one requires the canonical value $\frac{1}{2}$ for the Lorentz spin of Ψ has, one finds $k = 0$.

The internal symmetries follow the pattern described in the previous section. It is convenient to normalize the vector and the chiral charges according to

$$\mathcal{Q} = -\frac{1}{\alpha\sqrt{\pi}} Q \quad , \quad \mathcal{Q}^5 = -\frac{1}{\beta\sqrt{\pi}} \tilde{Q} \quad . \quad (5.22)$$

Under the vector boundary condition (5.4) (vector phase), \mathcal{Q} generates the transformations (4.20) on Ψ and $\bar{\Psi}$, whereas the action of \mathcal{Q}^5 is trivial. Accordingly, the physical representation in this case is reconstructed from the \mathcal{Q} -invariant correlation functions. If one imposes instead the axial boundary condition (5.5) (axial phase), \mathcal{Q}^5 transforms $\Psi_{L,R}$ according to (4.23) and \mathcal{Q} is trivial. Now the physical representation is recovered from the \mathcal{Q}^5 -invariant correlators.

Compared to the free Dirac equation on $\mathbf{R} \times \overline{\mathbf{R}}_+$, the impact of the duality transformation (2.57) on the above solutions of the Thirring model is slightly more involved. Taking into account that $\varphi \leftrightarrow \tilde{\varphi}$ in (5.6,7) is equivalent to $\alpha \leftrightarrow \beta$ and in view of (5.19), one finds that (2.57) maps the vector phase with coupling g in the axial phase with coupling $-g$ and vice versa.

We turn now to the construction of a solution of the Thirring model on $\mathbf{R} \times \overline{\mathbf{R}}_+$, in which both vector and axial symmetry are nontrivially implemented. As in the free case, treated in the previous section, the idea is to adopt a superposition of two fields φ_1 and φ_2 obeying Neumann and Dirichlet boundary conditions respectively, in order to obtain

$$J_\nu(t, x) = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} [\partial_\nu \varphi_1(t, x) + \partial_\nu \varphi_2(t, x)] \quad , \quad (5.23)$$

$$J_\nu^5(t, x) = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} [\partial_\nu \tilde{\varphi}_1(t, x) + \partial_\nu \tilde{\varphi}_2(t, x)] \quad . \quad (5.24)$$

These currents satisfy the boundary condition

$$\lim_{x \downarrow 0} J_x(t, x) = U \left[\lim_{x \downarrow 0} J_x^5(t, x) \right] U^{-1} , \quad (5.25)$$

the operator U being defined by eq.(4.33). Generalizing eqs.(4.29,30), we consider

$$\Psi_1(t, x) = \frac{\mu^{\frac{1}{4}(\alpha^2 + \beta^2)}}{\sqrt{2\pi}} : \exp \left\{ i \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2}} [\alpha(\varphi_1 + \varphi_2) + \beta(\tilde{\varphi}_1 + \tilde{\varphi}_2)] \right\} : (t, x) , \quad (5.26)$$

$$\Psi_2(t, x) = \frac{\mu^{\frac{1}{4}(\alpha^2 + \beta^2)}}{\sqrt{2\pi}} : \exp \left\{ i \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2}} [\alpha(\varphi_1 + \varphi_2) - \beta(\tilde{\varphi}_1 + \tilde{\varphi}_2)] \right\} : (t, x) . \quad (5.27)$$

With this ansatz we have to solve the equation of motion

$$i(\gamma_t \partial_t - \gamma_x \partial_x) \Psi(t, x) = -\frac{g}{\sqrt{2\pi}} : [\gamma_t \partial_t (\varphi_1 + \varphi_2) - \gamma_x \partial_x (\varphi_1 + \varphi_2)] \Psi : (t, x) , \quad (5.28)$$

and to reproduce (5.23,24) by means of (5.8,9) with appropriate renormalization constants $\tilde{Z}_\nu(x, \epsilon_x; \alpha, \beta)$ and $\tilde{Z}_\nu^5(x, \epsilon_x; \alpha, \beta)$. A direct inspection shows that these requirements imply that α and β are precisely given by eqs.(5.20,21). The renormalization constants turn out to be x -independent and read

$$\tilde{Z}_t = \tilde{Z}_x^5 = \frac{\epsilon_x^{\frac{1}{2}(\alpha^2 + \beta^2) - 1}}{\beta \sin(\frac{\pi}{2}\alpha\beta)} , \quad \tilde{Z}_x = \tilde{Z}_t^5 = \frac{\epsilon_x^{\frac{1}{2}(\alpha^2 + \beta^2) - 1}}{\alpha \sin(\frac{\pi}{2}\alpha\beta)} . \quad (5.29)$$

The physical representation in this vector-axial symmetric phase is reconstructed from those correlation functions of the fields (5.26,27), which are both \mathcal{Q} and \mathcal{Q}^5 -invariant.

Let us discuss finally the scaling properties of the obtained solutions, associated with different boundary conditions. These properties can be extracted from the behavior of the relative correlation functions in the physical representation. One finds that the dilatation group (2.46) is unitary implemented (3.22-24) with the following scale dimensions:

$$d_\Psi = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}\alpha^2 , & \text{vector phase;} \\ \frac{1}{2}\beta^2 , & \text{axial phase;} \\ \frac{1}{4}(\alpha^2 + \beta^2) , & \text{vector-axial phase.} \end{cases} \quad (5.30)$$

At fixed coupling constant g , the dimension d_Ψ takes different values in the above phases, except for the case $g^2 = (8k + 4)\pi^2$ with $k \in \mathbf{N}$, in which $d_\Psi = k + 1/2$ in all phases.

Summarizing, we derived in this section the operator solutions of the massless Thirring model on $\mathbf{R} \times \overline{\mathbf{R}}_+$, associated with the boundary conditions (5.4,5,25). The basic properties of the corresponding phases were also analyzed.

6. Conclusions

In the present paper we developed a bosonization procedure on the half line. Our starting point was to prove that the massless scalar field on $\mathbf{R} \times \overline{\mathbf{R}}_+$ and its dual, possess some definite locality properties, in spite of the breakdown of translation and Lorentz invariance. These properties provide the basic ingredient for constructing fermion, and more generally anyon fields in terms of bosonic ones. We described various boundary conditions on the fermions, formulated in terms of the vector and axial currents and implemented by means of linear boundary conditions on the bosonic field. As it can be expected on general grounds, symmetries are deeply influenced by the boundary conditions, which give rise to phases with different symmetry content. We investigated this aspect in detail and established the fundamental role of duality in connecting these phases.

The characteristic features of bosonization on the half line have been illustrated on the concrete example of the massless Thirring model. We constructed operator solutions corresponding to different boundary conditions. Structural issues like renormalization of the current operator and the symmetry properties of the different phases were also discussed.

The above investigation is a step towards the understanding of the abelian bosonization on the half line. A natural and quite attractive problem for the future is to extend our results to the non-abelian case.

Appendix A

We describe here the Fock representation \mathcal{F} of the algebra \mathcal{A} , defined by the commutation relations (2.15,16). The delicate point is the distribution $(k_+^{-1})_{\mu_0}$ in the right hand side of (2.16). What we need there is a solution $\gamma(k)$ of the equation

$$k \gamma(k) = \theta(k) \quad . \quad (A.1)$$

The naive one $\gamma(k) = \theta(k)k^{-1}$ has a non-integrable singularity in $k = 0$ and therefore, is not a distribution over the Schwartz test function space $\mathcal{S}(\mathbf{R})$. In spite of this fact, $\theta(k)k^{-1}$ gives rise to a continuous linear functional on the subspace $\mathcal{S}_0(\mathbf{R}) = \{f \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbf{R}) : f(0) = 0\}$ which, according to the Hahn-Banach theorem, can be extended to the whole $\mathcal{S}(\mathbf{R})$. The result of this operation is a one-parameter family of extensions, which can be represented by [26]

$$(k_+^{-1})_{\mu_0} \equiv \frac{d}{dk} \left[\theta(k) \ln \frac{k}{\mu_0} \right] \quad , \quad (A.2)$$

where $\mu_0 > 0$ is a free scale parameter and the derivative is in the sense of distributions. By construction $(k_+^{-1})_{\mu_0}$ satisfies (A.1) and has support in $\overline{\mathbf{R}}_+$. For $\varrho > 0$ one finds the following quasi-homogeneous behavior

$$\left((\varrho k)_+^{-1} \right)_{\mu_0} = \varrho^{-1} (k_+^{-1})_{\mu_0} + \varrho^{-1} \delta(k) \ln \varrho \quad . \quad (A.3)$$

In the terminology of [26] $(k_+^{-1})_{\mu_0}$ is therefore an associated (generalized) function of first order and degree -1 .

We turn now to the algebra \mathcal{A} . For the smeared fields

$$a(f) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dk}{2\pi} \overline{f}(k) a(k) \quad , \quad a^*(f) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dk}{2\pi} f(k) a^*(k) \quad , \quad f, g \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbf{R}) \quad , \quad (A.8)$$

the commutator (2.16) takes the form

$$[a(f), a^*(g)] = \langle f, g \rangle_s \quad , \quad (A.4)$$

with

$$\langle f, g \rangle_s \equiv \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dk}{2\pi} (k_+^{-1})_{\mu_0} \overline{f}(k) g(k) \quad . \quad (A.5)$$

Since the distribution $(k_+^{-1})_{\mu_0}$ is not positive definite, from (A.4,5) we deduce that the quantization requires indefinite metric. In order to enter the standard framework of indefinite metric quantization (see e.g.[27]), we have to construct a one-particle Hilbert space $\{\mathcal{H}^{(1)}, (\cdot, \cdot)^{(1)}\}$, equipped with a nondegenerate jointly continuous sesquilinear form $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle^{(1)}$, which is related to $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_s$ as follows: there exists an operator I mapping $\mathcal{S}(\mathbf{R})$ on a dense subspace of $\mathcal{H}^{(1)}$, such that

$$\langle If, Ig \rangle^{(1)} = \langle f, g \rangle_s \quad \forall f, g \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbf{R}) . \quad (A.6)$$

Let us summarize briefly the construction. First we observe that the restriction $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{s_0}$ of $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_s$ on $\mathcal{S}_0(\mathbf{R})$ is positive definite. Therefore $\{\mathcal{S}_0(\mathbf{R}), \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{s_0}\}$ is a pre-Hilbert space. The corresponding Hilbert space will be denoted by $\{\mathcal{H}_0(\cdot, \cdot)_0\}$. Now, as a one-particle space we take $\mathcal{H}^{(1)} \equiv \mathcal{H}_0 \oplus \mathbf{C}^2$ with the standard scalar product

$$(\chi_1, \chi_2)^{(1)} = (f_1, f_2)_0 + \bar{a}_1 a_2 + \bar{b}_1 b_2 , \quad (A.7)$$

and the sesquilinear form

$$\langle \chi_1, \chi_2 \rangle^{(1)} = (f_1, f_2)_0 + \bar{a}_1 b_2 + \bar{b}_1 a_2 , \quad (A.8)$$

$\chi_i = (f_i, a_i, b_i)$ being arbitrary vectors in $\mathcal{H}^{(1)}$. Obviously

$$|\langle \chi_1, \chi_2 \rangle^{(1)}|^2 \leq (\chi_1, \chi_1)^{(1)} (\chi_2, \chi_2)^{(1)} ,$$

showing the joint continuity of the form.

For constructing I , we fix $h \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbf{R})$ satisfying

$$h(0) = 1 , \quad \langle h, h \rangle_s = 0 . \quad (A.9)$$

One can adopt for instance

$$h(k) = \exp \left(-\frac{k^2}{2\mu_0^2 e^{\gamma_E}} \right) . \quad (A.10)$$

Then, setting

$$f_h(k) = f(k) - f(0)h(k) , \quad (A.11)$$

one can directly verify that the mapping

$$If = (f_h, \langle h, f \rangle_s, f(0)) , \quad (A.12)$$

satisfies all requirements. So, we are in position to apply the results of [27], which generalize the standard free field quantization procedure to the case of indefinite metric. Skipping the details, the basic steps are the following. We set $\mathcal{H}^{(0)} \equiv \mathbf{C}$ and $\mathcal{H}^{(n)} \equiv \otimes_{k=1}^n \mathcal{H}^{(1)}$. Let

$$\mathcal{V}^{(n)} = \{\chi_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes \chi_n : \chi_i \in \mathcal{H}^{(1)}\} \quad (A.13)$$

be the total set of decomposable vectors in $\mathcal{H}^{(n)}$. We define on $\mathcal{V}^{(n)}$ the form

$$\langle \chi, \chi' \rangle = \langle \chi_1, \chi'_1 \rangle^{(1)} \cdots \langle \chi_n, \chi'_n \rangle^{(1)} \quad (A.14)$$

and extend it by linearity and continuity to $\oplus_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{H}^{(n)}$. Moreover, for any $f \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbf{R})$ we introduce the operators $b^*(f)$ and $b(f)$, which act on $\mathcal{V}^{(n)}$ as follows:

$$b^*(f) \chi_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes \chi_n = If \otimes \chi_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes \chi_n , \quad (A.15)$$

$$b(f) \chi_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes \chi_n = \langle If, \chi_1 \rangle^{(1)} \chi_2 \otimes \cdots \otimes \chi_n , \quad n \geq 1 , \quad (A.16)$$

and $b(f)\mathcal{H}^{(0)} = 0$. The operators (A.15,16) admit unique extensions by linearity and continuity to the whole $\mathcal{H}^{(n)}$. Now, we are ready to define the Fock space $\{\mathcal{F}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle\}$, the vacuum state Ω and the operators $a(f)$ and $a^*(f)$, we are looking for. We set

$$\mathcal{F} = \oplus_{n=0}^{\infty} S_n \mathcal{H}^{(n)} , \quad (A.17)$$

S_n being the symmetrization operator. The inner product, used in the body of the paper for the evaluation of expectation values, is precisely the restriction of $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ on \mathcal{F} . The finite particle subspace $\mathcal{F}_0 \subset \mathcal{F}$ consists of sequences of the type $\chi = (\chi^{(0)}, \chi^{(1)}, \dots, \chi^{(n)}, \dots)$ with $\chi^{(n)} \in S_n \mathcal{H}^{(n)}$ and $\chi^{(n)} = 0$ for n large enough. The vector representing the vacuum state reads $\Omega = (1, 0, \dots, 0, \dots) \in \mathcal{F}_0$. Finally, we define the creation and annihilation operators

$$a^*(f) = \sqrt{n+1} S_{n+1} b^*(f) , \quad (A.16)$$

$$a(f) = \sqrt{n} b(f) \quad , \quad (A.17)$$

restricted to each $S_n \mathcal{H}^{(n)}$ and then extended by linearity to \mathcal{F}_0 . One may check easily that both $a(f)$ and $a^*(f)$ vanish whenever the support of f lies out of $\overline{\mathbf{R}}_+$.

This concludes the construction of the Fock representation of the commutation relations (2.15,16), used throughout the paper.

Appendix B

According to eq.(3.8), a generic correlation function of the anyon field (3.1) is expressed in terms of the functions $W_{ij}(t, x, y; \eta)$. The explicit form of W_{ij} is as follows:

$$W_{ij}(t, x, y; \eta = 0) = \frac{1}{4} \left\{ (\alpha_i \alpha_j + \beta_i \beta_j) \ln[-t^2 + (x - y)^2 + i\epsilon t] + (\alpha_i \alpha_j - \beta_i \beta_j) \ln[-t^2 + (x + y)^2 + i\epsilon t] + (\alpha_i \beta_j + \alpha_j \beta_i) \ln \frac{t - (x - y) - i\epsilon}{t + (x - y) - i\epsilon} - (\alpha_i \beta_j - \alpha_j \beta_i) \ln \frac{t - (x + y) - i\epsilon}{t + (x + y) - i\epsilon} \right\} , \quad (B.1)$$

$$W_{ij}(t, x, y; \eta = \infty) = \frac{1}{4} \left\{ (\alpha_i \alpha_j + \beta_i \beta_j) \ln[-t^2 + (x - y)^2 + i\epsilon t] - (\alpha_i \alpha_j - \beta_i \beta_j) \ln[-t^2 + (x + y)^2 + i\epsilon t] + (\alpha_i \beta_j + \alpha_j \beta_i) \ln \frac{t - (x - y) - i\epsilon}{t + (x - y) - i\epsilon} + (\alpha_i \beta_j - \alpha_j \beta_i) \ln \frac{t - (x + y) - i\epsilon}{t + (x + y) - i\epsilon} \right\} , \quad (B.1)$$

$$W_{ij}(t, x, y; 0 < \eta < \infty) = W_{ij}(t, x, y; \eta = \infty) + \frac{1}{2} \left\{ (\alpha_i \alpha_j - \beta_i \beta_j - \alpha_i \beta_j + \alpha_j \beta_i) e^{-\eta[t-(x+y)]} \operatorname{Ei}[\eta t - \eta(x + y) - i\epsilon] + (\alpha_i \alpha_j - \beta_i \beta_j + \alpha_i \beta_j - \alpha_j \beta_i) e^{\eta[t+(x+y)]} \operatorname{Ei}[-\eta t - \eta(x + y) + i\epsilon] \right\} . \quad (B.3)$$

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